

Nairobi Convention Focal Points and Regional Economic Communities Meeting

Maputo, December 2023

Regional Ocean Governance Strategy [draft for discussion]



Kieran Kelleher
ROGS Adviser



ROGS process to December 2023 – for review and discussion

- I. the challenge of regional ocean governance
- II. ROGS process and ‘outputs’
- III. mandate, vision, objectives
- IV. state of the WIO
- V. managing priorities
- VI. institutions & financing



I. the challenge

CURRENT FRAGMENTED INSTITUTIONAL SEASCAPE

multiple political agendas
(global, African, RECs, states)

multiple institutions & mandates
(global, African, regional, state)

multiple inter-related sectors
(shipping, fisheries, tourism,
urban development, offshore
industries)

multiple thematic agendas
(environmental, social, economic,
trade, paradigms)

collective regional versus national
interests

overlapping mandates & sector
interests

THE CHALLENGE

DESIGN
OF A

REGIONAL
COOPERATION
ECOSYSTEM

WHICH IS
FUNCTIONAL AND
EFFICIENT

ROGS ECOSYSTEM

- shared vision
- consensus policies
- agreed actions
- aligned policies & rules
- one ocean voice
- synergies, shared knowledge
- mutual support
- pooled finance/ resources (where necessary)

II. process & ‘outputs’



A. PARTICIPATORY PROCESS through

- Preparation – assessment (2019) & COP10 decision (2021)
- ROGS **Task Force** (2022)
- Community of Practice - November 2023
- engagement in other agendas , e.g. Marine Regions Forum, IOC-AIODIS

B. ‘OUTPUTS’

- Nairobi Convention COP **Decision** mid-2024
- Regional Ocean Governance **Strategy** documents 2023 - early 2024
- **integration** of existing initiatives, e.g., plastics & litter action plans
- ROGS interim **implementation** arrangements – [*under discussion*]
- permanent Community of Practice stakeholder online portal - [*TBD*]

II. Task Force – driving a participatory process

- ✓ Terms of Reference endorsed by NC Focal Points (2022)
- ✓ **COMPOSITION:**
 - country representatives
 - regional economic communities (4), IOC & AU Commission
 - civil society & private sector (*weak representation*), regional ocean experts
- ✓ **ROLE:**
 - stakeholder input, advice, review,
 - communications & extended engagement
- ✓ **ACTIONS:**
 - identify **priorities & implementation** mechanisms



II. Regional Ocean Governance Strategy documents

1. draft COP 11 **Decision** *[discussion draft]* linked to
2. ROGS ‘**synthesis**’ document linked to
[discussion draft - selected sections – work in progress]
3. **Technical Annex** *[in preparation]* containing
outcomes of Task Force Technical Dialogues & reference materials
4. **Stakeholder participation** through the *Community of Practice*
portal (public access) *[available when approved]*



II. Draft COP Decision requests the COP to:

1. **approve** the ROGS
2. include implementation in the NC work programme
3. encourage **Parties and regional organisations** to make best efforts to implement the strategy
4. request the (development) **partners** to support implementation
5. establish **interim institutional and financing** arrangements
6. prepare effective **long-term** institutional arrangements
7. arrange for regular **reporting, review** and adjustment

draft available - for discussion purposes only

III. Structure and Content of the draft

Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (*documents*)

III. 1. **policy** framework

III. 2. **state** of the Western Indian Ocean

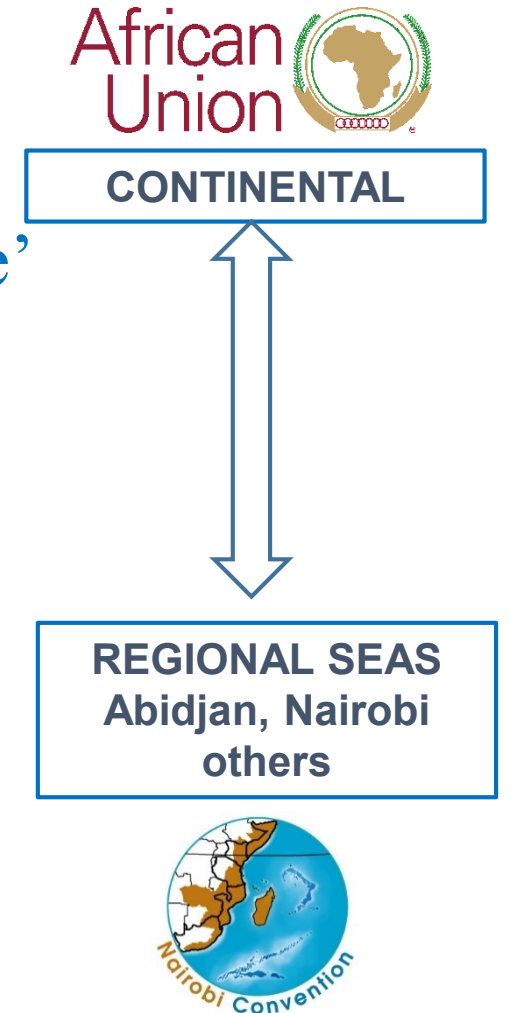
III. 3. **priorities** organised in four ‘Clusters’

III. 4. **implementation**: institutional arrangements & financing

work in progress – provided for discussion purposes

III - 1. policy: mandate for the ROGS

- African Union decision
- AMCEN (Africa Environment Ministers) ‘coordinate’
 - regional (i.e., continental) ocean governance
 - and blue economy
- AMCEN decision
 - Regional Seas Conventions to lead
- Nairobi Convention COP decisions
 - prepare ROGS
 - participatory process
 - engage with the Regional Economic Communities
 - use existing institutions



III - 1. policy: vision, objective & scope

- ❑ Vision. *“A peaceful stable Western Indian Ocean region with an environmentally healthy ocean, and a blue economy based on the protection and conservation of natural resources that delivers sustainable benefits with due regard to equity and wellbeing.”*
- ❑ Objective. *“To develop a regional mechanism through which the key regional stakeholders can cooperate in a coherent and structured manner to achieve the vision.”*
- ❑ Scope. *“the relevant jurisdictional areas of the parties to the Nairobi Convention **and the adjacent oceans**”*

agreed by the NC Focal Points as part of the ROGS & TF Terms of Reference

III. 1. policy framework: law, principles, approaches

INTERNATIONAL 'HARD' LAW

- UNCLOS
- environment
- climate
- biodiversity
- human rights
- trade
- maritime
- fisheries
- commercial
- peace & security

POLICIES/ 'SOFT' LAW

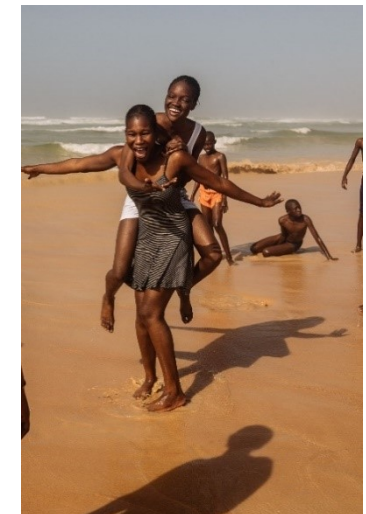
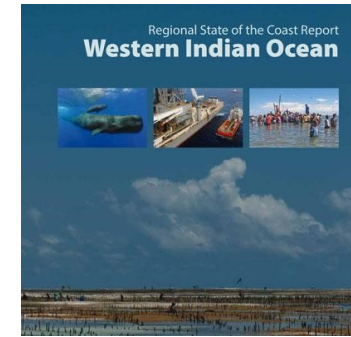
- AU/AIMS
- AU/ Blue economy
- AU/ Climate
- Djibouti/ Jeddah code
- SDGs
- National commitments:
climate, oceans,
biodiversity
- REC protocols/ policies
- Nairobi Convention
protocols

PRINCIPLES & APPROACHES

- precautionary
- ecosystem
- circular economy
- inclusivity and
human rights
- equity
- 30/30
- guidelines
- partnerships

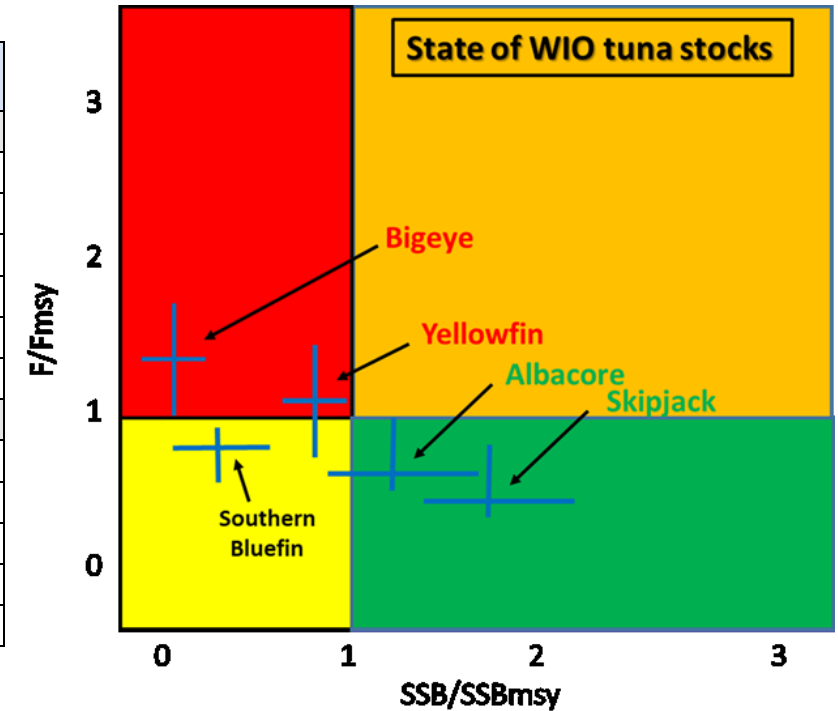
III. 2. State of the WIO – from available analyses

- ❑ **environment**: ecosystems, biodiversity, pollution
- ❑ **social**: incomes, wellbeing, equity, inclusion
- ❑ **economic**: flow of benefits, blue capital, ocean accounts
- ❑ **governance**: regional cohesion, national governance indicators
- ❑ SDGs and other global and regional **indicators**



III. 2. State of the WIO – examples only

Box 1. Gross marine product and value of natural capital (2015)					
WIO gross marine product/ flow of value: \$20.8 billion (2015 data)					
Adjacent ocean benefits 70.2%		Direct ocean services enabled 20.7%		Direct ocean output 9.1%	
Coastal tourism	50.0%	Marine tourism	19.0%	Industrial fisheries	7.8%
Carbon sequestration	14.0%	R&D	0.8%	Small-scale fisheries	1.2%
Coastal protection	6.0%	Security and control	0.5%	Aquaculture	0.1%
Marine biotech	0.2%	Ocean survey	0.2%		
		Education and training	0.1%		
WIO asset value (wealth or capital or stocks) \$333.8 billion					
Primary assets (\$bn)		Adjacent assets (\$bn)			
Marine fisheries	135.1	Productive coastline	93.2		
Coral Reefs	42.7	Carbon sinks	24		
Seagrass	18.1				
	20.8				



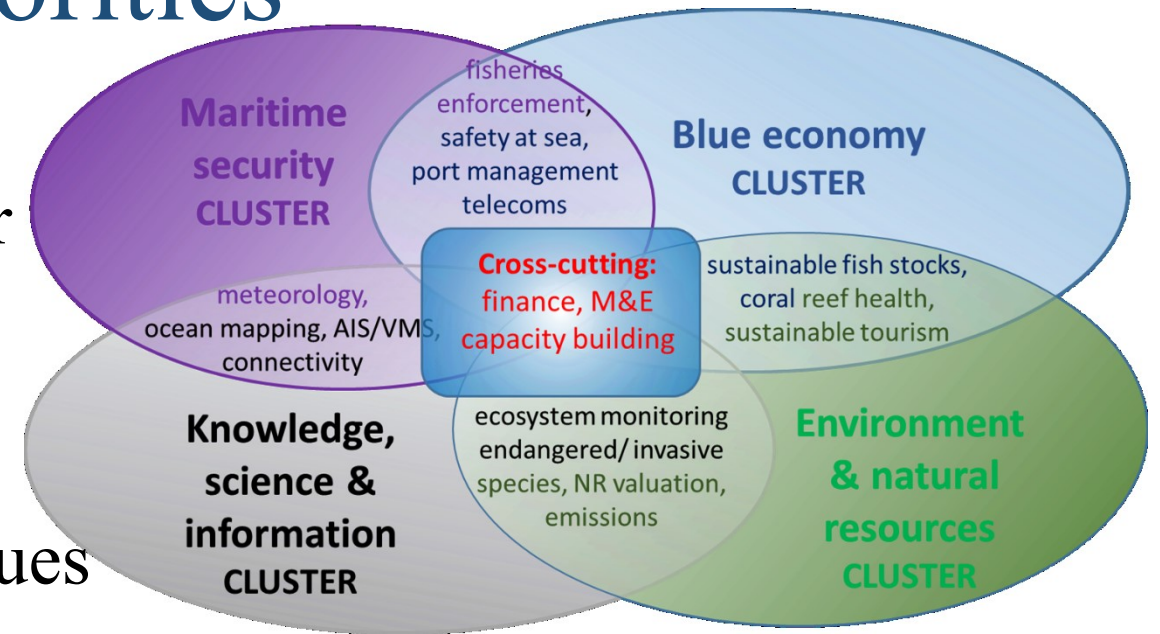
SDG 14 Indicators (WIO sample country)	Status	Status	Trend
Mean marine protected area important to biodiversity	20.14% of area	Red	Stagnant
Ocean Health Index: Clean Waters score	53.2/100	Red	Decreasing
Fish caught from overexploited or collapsed stocks	8.14% of catch	Green	On Track
Fish caught by trawling or dredging	20.29%	Yellow	Decreasing
Fish caught that are then discarded	5.72% of catch	Yellow	Decreasing
Marine biodiversity threats embodied in imports	0%	Green	Achieved

III. 3. regional priorities identified by the TF

Maritime Security cluster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective Maritime security and enforcement (including port state measures) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment of institutions on a 'regional' ABNJ/BBNJ
Blue economy cluster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building Sustainable Tourism • Building Sustainable fisheries • Managing offshore energy (extractive/ renewable) • Managing deepsea resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ports, trade and maritime connectivity • Development of a circular blue economy • Other emerging areas (IT, marine biotech, telecommunications)
Environment and natural resources cluster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation to and Mitigation of Climate Change • Prevention, reduction and control of marine plastic pollution • Prevention, reduction and control of nutrient and chemical pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation and rehabilitation of coral reef ecosystems • Conservation of biodiversity • Regional marine spatial planning and marine protected areas networks
Knowledge management and science cluster	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scientific advice in support the above clusters (including on ecosystem-based approaches, on fisheries and on monitoring of climate change) • Human capacity development • Transfer of technology • Regional scientific cooperation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consensus scientific advice on international oceans affairs • Science to governance (institutional arrangements) • Public awareness and access to science (including for private sector applications)

III. 3. managing the priorities

- ❑ **clustered** – but many **overlapping** or linked
- ❑ not all priorities can be effectively addressed to COP 2024
- ❑ **selection** for those for which dialogues can be resourced, or where
- ❑ clear actions and leadership can be identified
- ❑ other priorities are ‘**parked**’ to be taken up during ROGS implementation,
- ❑ or may be addressed through other initiatives



III. 3. question & answer for each priority through stakeholder Technical Dialogues

- ❑ **consensus understanding** of the priority and regional ‘content’
- ❑ consensus on key regional **actions**
- ❑ identification of **leadership**, ownership and capacity to act
- ❑ financing & **resourcing** [*see Blue Finance Architecture working paper*]



III. 3. maritime security priorities

- ✓ **cooperation** on maritime security
 - piracy, fisheries, traffic in arms and drugs
- ✓ prevention and preparedness for **spillages**
 - prevention
 - preparedness
- ✓ monitoring and control of activities in the **ABNJ**
 - cooperation with mandated organisations (IMO, ISA, etc.)
 - secure undersea telecom cables

[*BBNJ treaty under 'natural resources' Cluster*]



blue economy priorities

- ✓ sustainable **tourism**
- ✓ sustainable **fisheries**
 - small-scale, community, coastal
 - tuna, HMS & deepwater fisheries
- ✓ marine **plastic** pollution & circular (plastics) economy
 - regional plastics action plan prepared (with IOC)
- ✓ managing **offshore** extractive industries
 - offshore oil and gas – impact, ‘sustainability?’
 - deep seabed mining
- ✗ green ports, shipping & marine technology
- ✗ technology transfer, innovation & role of private sector – OBF [*see Our Blue Future*]

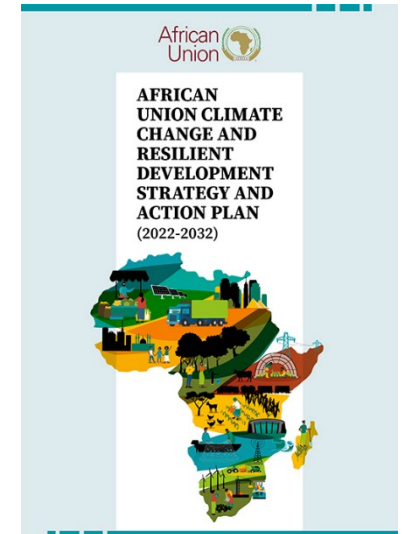


III. 3. environment & natural resources priorities



- ✓ water quality/ **water** pollution [*available*]
- ✓ **MPAs** & MSP [*in preparation based on TD*]
- ✓ **BBNJ treaty** [*in prep. based on TD outcomes*]
- ✗ conservation of biodiversity [**TD required**]
- ✗ critical ecosystems: conservation & restoration
coral reefs/ seagrass/ mangroves [**TD required**]
- ✗ adaptation to & mitigation of climate change [**TD required – high importance**]

Group?



III. 3. knowledge management and capacity building priorities [in preparation]



- ✓ **information** management strategy (IMS) prepared
- ✓ regional ocean **accounts** advanced, Symphony (GIS), other tools
- **science** to governance platform outcomes December 2023
- **capacity**: ocean governance, World Ocean Assessment / UNCLOS
- many cross-cutting actions – networks, associations, private sector



III. 3. key challenges knowledge management and capacity building



- how to organise consensus science, knowledge and communication most effectively ?
 - **science**: consensus and advice on actions; balance environment/ social/ economic
 - **financing**, prioritisation, allocation, maintenance (e.g. data sets), gaps
 - **communication** to all levels: from ministers to households – sustainable behaviours
- how to organise capacity building most effectively?
 - **institutions** – building networks, associations
 - **human resources**, incl. private sector (technology adoption, innovation)
- communications strategy



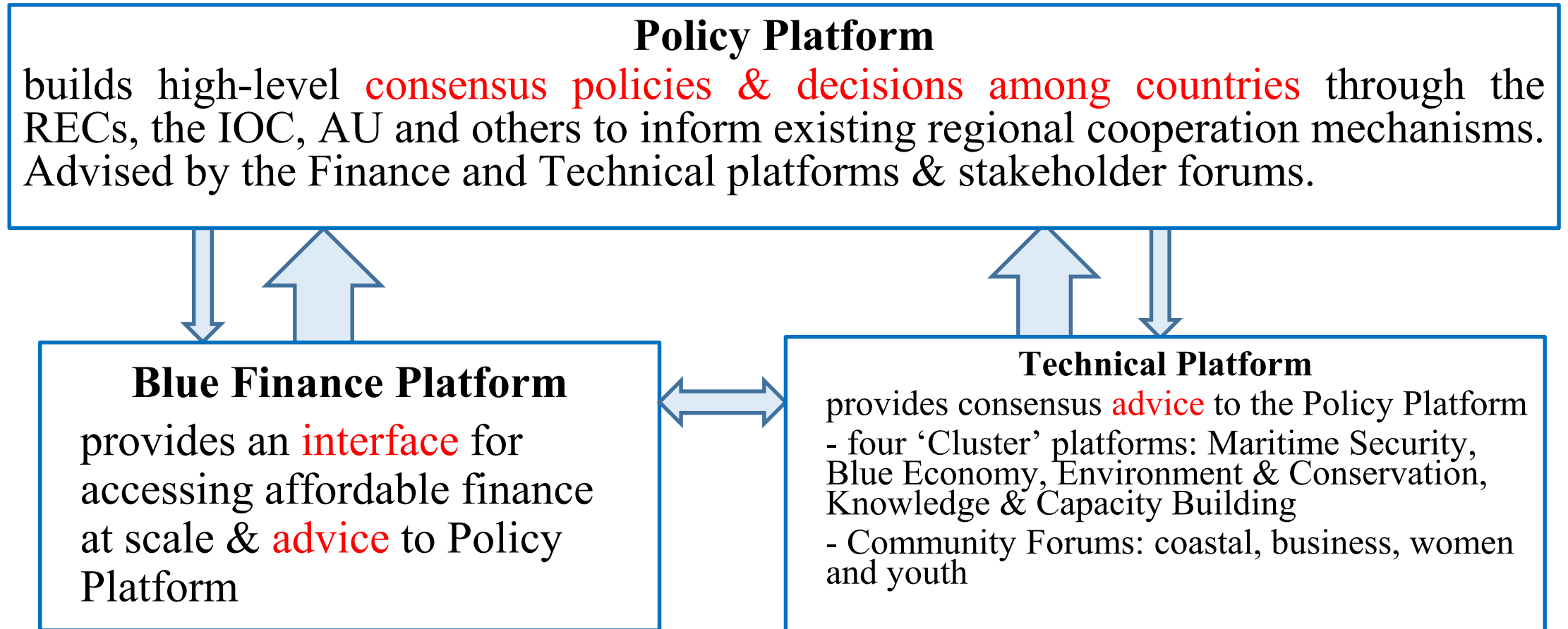
III. 3. communications strategy knowledge management and capacity building



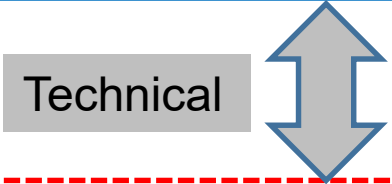
- preparation phase:
 - NC Community of Practice, transparency, public access & comment on drafts
- implementation targets: priority actions & ‘sustainable’ public behaviour
 - **science**: consensus and advice on actions; balance environment/ social/ economic
 - **financing**, prioritisation, allocation, maintenance (e.g. data sets), gaps
 - **communication** to all levels: from ministers to households – sustainable behaviours
- implementation mechanisms
 - **public media** – radio, TV, press, school curriculum materials, advertising
 - **social media** – facebook, X, Instagram, LinkedIn, associations, others
 - **champions** – e.g., olympic champions, mobile phone companies, lotteries
 - **campaigns** – e.g., plastics, sustainable tourism, lessons from Covid
 - NC web pages & links to national pages and civil society associations/ NGOs



III. 4. ROGS institutional arrangements



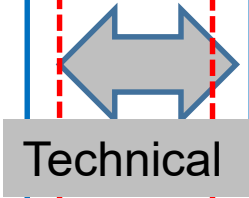
**Countries, AU, RECs/ IOC, NC-COP
(others as mandated (TBD))**
consensus recommendations, policies,
action plans



Blue Finance Platform

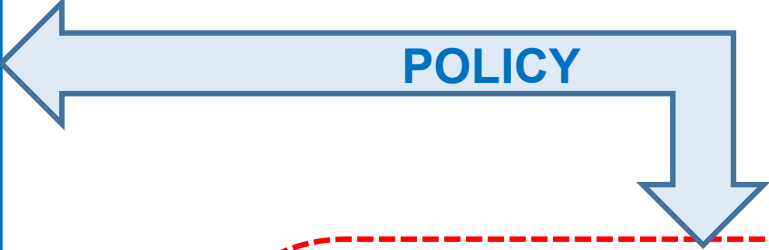
Technical Platform

- Four Cluster Platforms
- country technical engagement
- working groups/ task forces/ networks, NC & other (TBD): science, technology, business, security.
- community & stakeholder **forums**



ROGS Policy Platform
consensus policies/ recommendations
countries, RECs, the IOC, AU & others
to inform existing regional cooperation
mechanisms.
Advised by the Finance and Technical
platforms & stakeholder forums.

Role of the RECs & IOC
Coordination, alignment,
implementation (when
mandated)



Community Forums?

- ❑ mechanism to enhance ‘grass-roots’ engagement
- ❑ linked to Knowledge and Capacity Cluster
- ❑ **forums** every [2] years – 50-100 participants:
 - **coastal** community organisations
 - small/ medium **business** associations
 - **women**’s organisations
 - **youth** organisations
 - voice of disadvantaged groups (waste pickers, remote islands, fisher crews)
- ❑ ‘report’ to Cluster and Technical & Finance Platforms
 - identify priority actions, gaps, constraints
 - rapid assessment of delivery mechanisms and impacts
 - facilitate access to key services – microfinance, training, health



III. 4. Blue Finance Architecture

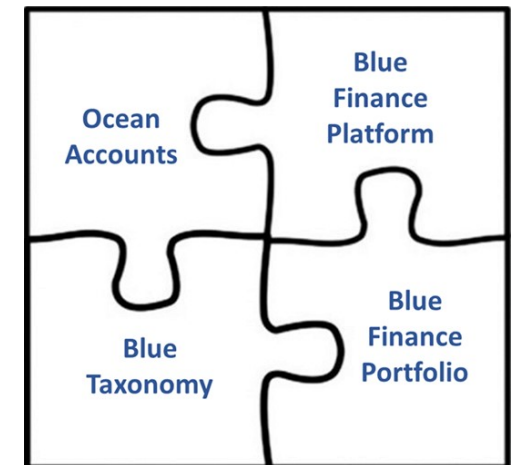
Blue Finance Platform a convener of a permanent **dialogue** on WIO blue finance (countries, sources of finance, business, ...)

Regional Blue Portfolio creates a (virtual) **pipeline** of investment giving vision, scale, leverage, synergies – it is NOT envisaged as a ‘fund’

Blue Taxonomy guides the investments to meet SDGs, net zero, and other high-level **regional targets**

Regional Ocean Accounts provide **common metrics** to monitor and evaluate impacts across all investments

[Separate presentation, background papers and Technical Dialogue report available]



Advice from FPs & RECs

- ❑ process to date – **on track** - Yes/ No?
- ❑ are **changes** required, if so what?
- ❑ what is **missing** or needs more attention, e.g.?
 - climate change, financing, critical habitats, institutional arrangements
 - who and how?
- ❑ what is needed for COP versus what can be left to post-COP?
- ❑ **process** going forward
 - timetable, reviews
 - communication (key stakeholders)
 - public access and transparency
- ❑ GEF **SAP target**: to support ROGS implementation?
- ❑ Linking ROGS implementation to other regional initiatives:
 - EU ≈ €50m+; WB (PROBLUE/ Blue Economy for Resilient Africa Program (BE4RAP)); Blue Belt Initiative (led by Morocco, in formulation); others

